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CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

TODD K. APO

COUNCILMEMBER • DISTRICT I VICE-CHAIR, CITY COUNCIL CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON BUDGET PH: (808) 768-5001 • FAX: (808) 550-6917

EMAIL: tapo@honolulu.gov

February 1, 2008

The Honorable Mufi Hanneman Mayor City and County of Honolulu 530 S. King Street Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mayor Hanneman:

Subject:

BUDGET COMMUNICATION NO. 1

<u>Line-Item Details - Operating and Capital Budgets for Fiscal Year 2009</u>

As has been common practice, we formally request a detailed explanation of any item of more than \$50,000 in the upcoming CIP and Operating budgets. We are unanimously committed to closely examining the 2008 FY budgets as part of our commitments to the taxpayers of this Island. To do so, we need this detailed information provided to us with the budget on March 2.

In the Operating budget, this would, for example, entail a breakdown of current expense and equipment items over \$50,000. For example, in prior years, the line item details lumped together Object code #3009, "Other Contractual Services," but it is impossible to tell what services are actually being contracted. Rather than submit itemized questions for each department during the budget review process, we need this information to be given to us with the budget submittal documents. This information would streamline the review process and allow review of the budget to proceed more quickly and efficiently.

In the Capital Budget, appropriations over \$50,000 need to be broken down for miscellaneous projects such as: ADA improvements, public building facilities improvements, rehabilitation of streets, landscape improvements, playfield lighting improvements, reconstruction of wastewater systems for various parks, renovation of recreational facilities, etc. Details of precisely what the monies will be used for need to be provided. Departments need to provide precise details for each line item breakdown and/or project.

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Your cooperation with this request would be much appreciated and would enable all of us to serve the citizens of the City and County of Honolulu in a more efficient manner.

Committee on Budget

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Councilmember

ROD TAM Councilmember BARBARA MARSHALL, Chair

City Council

Councilmember

NESTOR R. GARCIA

Councilmember

Councilmember